THE COPIE OF A LETTER,

Sent from divers Knights and Gentlemen of *Nottingham-shire*, to the Knights serving for that County in PARLIAMENT.

[illegible] *July.* 1642.

YORK:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL. 1642.

53 (24)

LOAN
LIBRARY

To our much Honoured Friends, Sir *Thomas Hutchinſon* Knight, and *Robert Sutton* Eſq. Knights of the Shire, for the County of *Nottingham.*

Gentlemen,

Inding to our great grief (by divers printed Declarations) the unhappy differences betwixt his Majeſtie and His Parliament, and from thence apprehending great fear of further diſtractions, we have thought fit to impart our hearts freely unto you as men choſen by us, and intruſted for us, to repreſent us, and our deſires in Your Honourable Houſe of Commons. Where, in the firſt place, upon all occaſions, we deſire you to tender the acknowledgement of our humble & hearty thanks for thoſe many good Laws, which by their Care and Wiſdom, together with his Majeſties Grace and Favour have been obtained for us, both for the ſecuring us in the point of our Property, and alſo for the freeing us from the unlimited power of Arbitrary government: And herein His Majeſtie having concurred with you in all that we could expect or can deſire both for our Perſons and Eſtates, & at ſeverall times promiſed to joyn with his Parliament, for the reforming and reducing both the Doctrine and Diſcipline of the Church to the beſt and pureſt times ſince the Reformation; And if this were done, what others would expect we know not, we deſire

no more. And now we cannot but ſtand amazed, to ſee the King, the Lords and Commons agree in all that we can think neceſſary for Reformation, and for ſecuring us hereafter to be governed according to the good Laws of the Land in force, and yet ſuch great Diſtraction amongſt thoſe three Eſtates: We heard long ſince reports, and ſaw printed Papers of the great dangers of Papiſts, and that even in our own County, but beleeve there was no truth or ground of any ſuch: We heard great Rumors of forraign Force from *France* and *Denmark*; but thanks be to God, we ſee no ſuch danger; And yet under theſe pretences, there is great preparation of putting us in a poſture of Defence and a great neceſſity pretended, of ſetling the *Militia*, but we ſee more cauſe to feare the remedy, then the diſeaſe: For this poſture (as you call it) of Defence doth carry a face of War with it even amongſt our ſelves, and concerning it we are diſtracted with contrary Commands, the Houſes of Parliament command one thing, the King forbids that Command, the King commands, and the Houſes of Parliament forbids that Command, and we are at a ſtand, and yet we are ever ready to yeeld Obedience to all the known lawes of the land; and we have ever been taught, That all thoſe Laws made in Parliament, conſiſt of three Eſtates, the Commons, Lords, and King, and we think it dangerous to untwiſt that triple Cord: And we hold it our greateſt priviledge, That the King and Lords whom we have heard ſometime joyned in Councell, could not make a Law to bind us without our conſent in Parliament; and by the ſame reaſon, we cannot expect that the Commons, with the Lords, ſhould make a Law or an Ordinance, of the force of a Law, to bind without the King, eſpecially againſt the King: And as we doe not yeeld any Act of obedience to the Kings Command ſimply, but as it is warranted by Law, made by

his

his Authority, with the Conſent of both Houſes, ſo we ſhall not conceive our ſelves bound to obey one or both Houſes without the King, but in ſuch things as are according to the known Laws of the Land. When the King by his Writ gave us power to chuſe you, it was to treat *De quibuſdam arduis, &c.* We never conceived your onely Votes ſhould be our Law, nor conceived we had ſuch a power to confer upon you: And we require you not to conſent to lay any ſuch cõmand upon us, nor to ingage us in any civill war for the maintenance of ſuch Votes, under colour of Priviledges againſt our Lawfull King, to whom many of us, by the appointment of the Law, have taken the Oath of Supremacy and Allegiance, to which all of us are bound: And beſide, we have at the command of both Houſes taken the late Proteſtation, wherein we have vowed to maintain the doctrine of the Church of *England*, his Majeſties Royall perſon, Honour, and Eſtate, the Priviledges of Parliament, and the Liberties of the Subject; And we ſhall endevour to maintain every part and clauſe thereof reſpectively with our lives and fortunes. And we conceive our beſt directions therein to be the known Laws, the maintenance whereof we account our onely liberty and defence. And we account the ſureſt way to enjoy the benefit of theſe Laws, is to joyn and comply with his Majeſtie, under whoſe protection, next under God, we can onely hope to enjoy the benefit thereof; eſpecially his Majeſtie having ſince this Parliament joyned in the making of as good Laws as ever any King hath done; and made ſo gracious promiſes of his future government according to the Laws, and given abundant ſatisfaction for ſome unhappy accidents in his paſt government, that we conceive great cauſe to return him cheerfull thankfulneſſe for theſe Laws, and to yeeld a faithfull obedience, and to confide in

him

him for the future. This is the cleer expreſſion of our hearts; this is that we deſire you to conſent in for us. And we ſhall heartily pray that we might be an example to many others to make the like expreſſions; And then we ſhould not doubt but this would bring a right Underſtanding betwixt the King and his people, and take away all fears and jealouſies, and ſettle a firme peace amongſt us. We ſhould gladly, with all humility, have petitioned your Honourable Houſe but ſtill to this purpoſe. And we Underſtand ſome Countries have done ſo, which hath been diſpleaſing unto them becauſe contrary to their ſenſe, and we, perhaps, through ignorance might fall into the ſame error. Yet we hope it will not be diſpleaſing unto you, that we give you our ſenſe freely, for you are us, and we hope you will not be unwilling to follow our ſenſe, ſo far as you conceive it to be the ſenſe of your County whoſe you are, and for whom you ſerve. And ſo we reſt your very loving Friends, and Countreymen.

John Digby, High Sheriffe.
John Byron.
Richard Parkyns.
William Apleton.
Robert Pilſon.
George Laſcells.
Matthew Palmer.
Roger Cooper.
Iſham Parkyns.
Ia. Wood.
G. Hollis.
Richard Byron.
Ia Nevile.
Edmund Haſlings.
Edward Andrews
Thomas Blackwall.
William Sandes.
Tho. Longford.
Jerwas Sanford.
Rich. Harper.
Gabriel Armeſtrong.
Acton Burnell.
Sam. Bolles.
Rowl. Pand.
John Odingſells.
Anthony Gilby.
Robert Eyre.
Parke Creſſy.

Thomas

Thomas Houlder.
Robert Saunderſon.
John Walker.
Thomas Fox.
I. Bolles.
Gri. Dwall.
William Smyths.
Nich. Stoyt.
Tho. Holkwell.
Rich. Draper.
Tho. Atkinſon.
Launcellot Ralſton.
Tho. Newton.
William Wild.
Herbert Leek.
Tho. Brown.
William Smythſon.
Io. Goſling.
William Oglethorpe.
Geo. Laſcells.
John Clay.
Geo. Milford.
William Needham.
Rich. Brough
John Butterworth.
Tho. Poole.
John Lee.

Io. Worſdale.
William Shipman.
Charles Leek.
William Aſpley.
Francis Cavendiſh.
Charles North.
Matthew Palmer.
Rich. Holliwell.
Roger Iackſon.
John Leeke.
Rich. Simman.
Stephen Broome.
William Colby.
John Newport.
Hen. Caldecott.
Hdw. Holland.
Hen. Broome.
William Hacker.
Iames Forbeny.
Iob Holden.
Rich. Boyer.
William Pocklington.
Hen. Green.
Walter Garrington.
John Grundy.
G. Flower.

FINIS.

Thomas Hamilton.
Robert Saunderson.
John Walker.
Thomas Fox.
T. Bolton.
Geo. Duval.
William Snipes.
Nich. Stapp.
Tho. Holbrook.
Rich. Draper.
Tho. Hopkins.
Lawrence Rollins.
Tho. Newton.
William Webb.
Hedor Teach.
Tho. Brown.
William Simpkins.
[illegible].
William Oxenbridge.
Geo. Eglesh.
John Clay.
Geo. Mulford.
William Needham.
Rich. Brough.
John Butterworth.
Tho. Poole.
John Lee.

To William Shipman.
Charles Leech.
William Copper.
Francis Cromelin.
Charles North.
Matthew Palmer.
Rich. Hollowell.
Roger Adams.
John Leeke.
Rich. Simmons.
Stephen Browne.
William Colly.
John Newport.
Hen. Chalfont.
Richd. Holland.
Hen. Broome.
William Hacker.
James Porteny.
Rob. Holden.
Rich. Boyer.
William Peckington.
Hen. Green.
Walter Grayington.
John Cranny.
G. Elsmer.

FINIS.